Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

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O 092200 Z APR 73 FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1237

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SUBJECT: PROGRAM LOAN - WAIVER OF US ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS FOR INITIAL PROCUREMENT OF MANAGUA RUBBLE REMOVAL SERVICES

- 1. GON'S HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IS PROCEEDING RAPIDLY FORWARD WITH PLANS FOR CONTRACTING THE MANAGUA RUBBLE REMOVAL PROGRAM TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHILE USING ITS OWN FORCES FOR DEMOLITION WORK AND CRC FORCES FOR SALVAGE OPERATIONS. CLEAN- UP AREA HAS BEEN ZONED AND BLOCKS OF 5, 10, 15 OR 20 MANZANAS EACH HAVE BEEN LOCATED WHERE CLEAN- UP OPERATIONS COULD BE INITIATED DUE TO ADVANCED STATE OF DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE OPERATIONS. CLEAN-UP/RUBBLE TRANSPORT FOR THESE SMALLER AREAS WILL BE PUT OUT TO BID DURING APRIL AND EARLY MAY PHASED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SALVAGE AND DEMOLITION WORK. AT LATER DATE (WITHIN TWO MONTHS) WHEN DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE HAVE PROCEEDED FURTHER, THE CLEAN- UP OF LARGER AREAS OF MORE THAN 100 MANZANAS WILL BE PUT OUT TO BID.
- 2. HIGHWAY DEPT PLANS TO LET SMALLER CONTRACTS FOR 5, 10, 15
 OR 20 MANZANA SECTIONS ON BASIS OF FORMAL BIDDING PROCEDURES
 CONDUCTED LOCALLY SO AS TO FACILITATE MOST RAPID ADVERTISING AND
 CONTRACTING, EMPLOYMENT OF EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE LOCALLY, MORE
 RAPID INITIATION AND COMPLETION OF WORK, AND BETTER PHASING OF
 RUBBLE REMOVAL CONTRACTS WITH DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE OPERATIONS.
 CONTRACTS WILL RANGE BETWEEN \$35,000 AND \$150,000 WITH FEW EXCEEDING \$100,000. FUNDING WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE PROGRAM
 LOAN.
- 3. APPROXIMATELY 14 LOCAL FIRMS HAVE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE (MAINLY TRUCKS AND FRONT- END LOADERS) AND ARE WILLING TO BID ON THESE UNCLASSIFIED

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SMALLER AREAS. THE INITIAL CONTRACT WILL BE FOR A 15 MANZANA SECTION AND WILL BE ABOUT \$60,000. THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED A WAIVER OF US ADVERTISING FOR THESE SMALLER CONTRACTS SO THAT CONTRACTING AND RUBBLE REMOVAL ACTIVITIES CAN BE INITIATED WITHOUT DELAYS CAUSED BY US ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS. SINCE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT US FIRMS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THESE SMALLER JOBS COULD THEY MOBILIZE QUICKLY ENOUGH FOR ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT A WAIVER OF US ADVERTISING BE GRANTED FOR THIS INITIAL RUBBLE REMOVAL CONTRACT AS WELL AS FOR OTHER SIMILAR CONTRACTS FOR LESS THAN \$150,000. (HIGHWAY DEPT ESTIMATES THAT APPROXIMATELY 1 0 OF THESE CONTRACTS WILL BE LET IN APRIL OR MAY.)

- 4. BID PACKAGE FOR LARGER AREAS WILL SOON BE PREPARED AND WILL BE ADVERTISED INTERNATIONALLY. HIGHWAY DEPT HOPEFUL THAT DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE OPERATIONS WILL HAVE PROCEEDED FAR ENOUGH TO PERMIT FIRST LARGE IFB ADVERTISEMENT IN MAY. THESE LARGER OPERATIONS WILL BE ADVERTISED IN CBD. HOWEVER, WHILE LARGER AREAS ARE BEING PREPARED FOR BID, IMPORTANT FIRST STEPS IN RUBBLE REMOVAL PROGRAM CAN BE INITIATED BY LOCAL FIRMS.
- 5. REQUEST PRIORITY ACTION THIS WAIVER. SHELTON

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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PROCUREMENT OF MANAGUA RUBBLE